

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
MISSOULA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STEVEN TYLER SIMPKINS,

Defendant.

CR 18–41–M–DLC

ORDER

United States Magistrate Judge Jeremiah C. Lynch entered Findings and Recommendation in this matter on September 26, 2018. Neither party objected and therefore they are not entitled to *de novo* review of the record. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1121 (9th Cir. 2003).

This Court will review the Findings and Recommendation for clear error.

*McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Commodore Bus. Mach., Inc.*, 656 F.2d 1309, 1313 (9th Cir. 1981). Clear error exists if the Court is left with a “definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been committed.” *United States v. Syrax*, 235 F.3d 422, 427 (9th Cir. 2000).

Judge Lynch recommended this Court accept Steven Tyler Simpkins’ guilty plea after Simpkins appeared before him pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, and entered a plea of guilty to one count of conspiring to distribute

methamphetamine in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846 and 841(a)(1) as set forth in Count I of the Indictment, and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(A)(i) as set forth in Count III of the Indictment. Defendant further agrees to the forfeiture allegation in the Indictment. In exchange for Defendant's plea, the United States has agreed to dismiss Counts II and IV of the Indictment.

I find no clear error in Judge Lynch's Findings and Recommendation (Doc. 33), and I adopt them in full, including the recommendation to defer acceptance of the Plea Agreement until sentencing when the Court will have reviewed the Plea Agreement and Presentence Investigation Report.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that Steven Tyler Simpkins' motion to change plea (Doc. 19) is GRANTED and Steven Tyler Simpkins is adjudged guilty as charged in Counts I and III of the Indictment.

DATED this 12th day of October, 2018.



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Dana L. Christensen, Chief District Judge  
United States District Court